

First Sunday of Lent

MASS INTENTIONS

Thurs., Feb. 25th, 6:30 p.m.: Marlene Cowell, by family; Luella Cowell, by St. Anne's CCW
Fri., Feb. 26th, 8 a.m.: Betty Schaefer, by Vera Birke; Claradel Donjon, by Norm & Jan Joellenbeck
Sat., Feb. 27th, 4 p.m.: Walter & Louise Gregson, by family; Thelma Romay, by Welda & Carol DeRousse
Sun., Feb. 28th, 10 a.m.: Jeff "Chopper" DuFrenne, by Betty Ehret; For the Parish

PLEASE PRAY FOR ...

Gladys Thiele, Dennis Deterding, Matt Haas, Penny Dwyer, Robert Otten, Nursing Home Residents, Homebound Parishioners

Names remains for 4 weeks. Call the rectory.



THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Intense love does not measure, it just gives. How intense is your love?
(Mother Teresa)

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

Just before Lent was to start the religion teacher asked the class one day if anyone knew what denial is. Little Mark, who didn't usually have the right answer but was never afraid to try, thought he knew this one. "Denial," he proudly and loudly declared, "is a river in Egypt."

HAPPENINGS THIS WEEK

Sun.: Confirmation Commitment at 10 a.m. for those unable to attend in December
Mon.: 6:30 p.m. "Into the Breach" DVD program by K of C in Church - enter thru the breezeway, sign in and go into Church
Tues.: 6:30 p.m. Mandatory meeting for those recommended for Parish Council - in Church.
Wed.: PSR Classes 6:45 p.m. in school
Thurs: Lenten Mass 6:30 p.m. Come as a family! No reservations necessary -enter Church thru the breezeway.
Fri.: Mass at 8 a.m. followed by Adoration till 9:30 a.m.
Sat/Sun: Sacrament of Anointing at both Masses

POPE FRANCIS SPEAKS TO OUR HEARTS

(Trials Lead to God's Glory) We must undergo many trials if we are to enter the kingdom of God (cf. Acts 14:22). The journey of the Church and our own personal journeys as Christians are not always easy; they meet with difficulties and trials. To follow the Lord, to let his Spirit transform the shadowy parts of our lives, our ungodly ways of acting, and cleanse us of our sins, is to set out on a path with many obstacles, both in the world around us but also within us, in the heart. But difficulties and trials are part of the path that leads to God's glory, just as they were for Jesus who was glorified on the cross; we will always encounter them in life! Do not be discouraged! We have the power of the Holy Spirit to overcome these trials!

THURSDAY EVENING LENTEN SERVICES

Again this year we will be alternating Thursday evenings with Stations and Benediction, and Mass. They will be held at 6:30 p.m. **Enter Church through the breeze way, sign in, sanitize your hands, go in and be seated. You don't have to call to make a reservation for these Thursday evening services.** Will you use these Lenten opportunities to pray with your family?



READINGS

1st Reading: Genesis 9:8 - 15

God's covenant with Noah when he was delivered from the flood.

2nd Reading: 1 Peter 3:18 - 22

The water of the flood prefigured Baptism, which saves you now.

Gospel: Mark 1:12 - 15

Jesus was tempted by Satan, and the angels ministered to him.

FROM THE DESK OF FR. DENNIS

The readings today for this First Sunday of Lent revolve around the covenant God established with all humanity, with all of us. It began with just a few people taking refuge on the ark, but after the flood Noah and his family **were all of humanity**. The first Letter of Peter identifies baptism as a sign of that covenant, saving us as the ark had saved Noah. Jesus, God's new covenant with humanity, calls us to repentance and faith. "Repent, and believe in the gospel." Jesus says to us. Let us resolve to turn back to God and live out the gospel in our day to day lives. Let us find ourselves able to approach the Cross with profound gratitude for what our Lord has done for us.



Come join us this week for these Lenten Opportunities: Monday, 6:30 p.m. DVD program "Into the Breach" sponsored by the Knights of Columbus in Church. Enter through the breezeway, sign in, hand sanitize, and go into Church; **Thursday, 6:30 p.m.** Lenten Mass - enter through the breezeway; **Friday, 8:00 a.m.** Mass followed by Adoration until 9:30 a.m.; **Saturday/Sunday - Sacrament of Anointing at the 4 p.m. & the 10 a.m. Mass.**

Have you stopped by the table in the front entrance and picked up any Lenten Reading material? It is there for the taking! How are you using these days of Lent to draw closer to the Lord?

Have a blest first week of Lent! Stay safe, stay healthy, wear a mask! Remember, don't worry so much, and know that you are loved!

~ Fr. Dennis

INTO THE BREACH

This Lent step Into the Breach with the Knights of Columbus. Every Monday of Lent, starting Monday, February 22, 6:30 PM, the Knights of Columbus will host a video series with discussion about the role of today's Catholic gentlemen. These sessions are open to all Catholic men. Contact Scott Chambers at 618-978-5457 for more info/to RSVP.

YOUR GIFTS TO GOD & PARISH

Sunday.....	\$3,314.00
Loose.....	\$180.00
Total (Goal: \$5,866.00).....	\$3,494.00
Adopt-a-Parish.....	\$200.00
School Support.....	\$55.00
Initial Offering.....	\$10.00
Capital Campaign.....	\$5.00
Ash Wednesday.....	\$85.00

BLACK & INDIAN MISSION COLLECTION

This weekend is the 137th annual National Black and Indian Mission Collection. Our support of this collection helps build the Church in African American, Native American, and Alaska Native communities from coast to coast. Schools, parish religious education programs, and diocesan ministries depend on your generosity to help them spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ!

FEED YOUR SOUL WITH PRAYER THIS LENT

Nothing will transform your life so completely, absolutely, and forever like really learning how to pray. That's why this year's BEST LENT EVER journeys through Matthew Kelly's latest book, *I Heard God Laugh: A Practical Guide to Life's Essential Daily Habit*. Beginning on Ash Wednesday and continuing through all forty days of Lent, you will receive a daily e-mail with a short video to help you reconnect with yourself and your God. If you choose to throw yourself into this experience, we promise you that you will be surprised by what God can do in your life with just an e-mail, a short video and an open heart. So this year, don't just sign up for BEST LENT EVER, have your best Lent ever. Go to dynamiccatholicbestlentever to sign up. (If you didn't get the book *I Heard God Laugh* which we gave out at Christmas, you will find copies in the Church entrance way.)

LAUNDRY DETERGENT FUNDRAISER

St. John's School is holding their annual Bulk Laundry Detergent Fundraiser now through March 1st. Order forms can be found in the back of church. Any questions please contact Jennifer Eckart 618-340-1987.

2020 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS

2020 contribution statements from SJB church will be prepared on FRIDAYS ONLY. Please plan accordingly. To request your statement: call Rhonda (282-3222 x 2), email rhondaj@htc.net, or drop a self-addressed stamped envelope in the collection.



MARCH ON THE ARCH 2021

Coalition for Life, St. Louis, March on the Arch 2021: Saturday, March 6th. Bishop McGovern: 11:30 a.m.; Prayer Walk: 12 p.m. Sign up at stlmarch.com; 314-827-4039.

PORK SAUSAGE DINNER

Sun., Feb. 28, drive-through pork sausage dinner at Ss. Peter & Paul, Waterloo. You can pull into the alley between the church and school between 11am - 3pm to order and pick up a \$10 dinner. If you would like to pre-order and pay for your meal(s) online, you can do that here - <https://Wurstmarkt.givesmart.com>.

FISH FRY

St. Peter United Church of Christ, Red Bud, is having a Fish Fry on Feb. 26th & Mar. 12th, 4-7 p.m. Carry-outs only; you can call ahead to place an order: 282-2417. Cash or check only.

I AM HUNGRY

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MASS ATTENDANCE

Sat., Feb. 13th, 56 people attended the 4 p.m. Mass.
Sun., Feb. 14th, 79 people attended the 10 a.m. Mass.
We have plenty of room - join us!



SJB DINNER AUCTION

The SJB Dinner Auction Committee presents the "Show Some Love for SJB" Giving Campaign. This campaign replaces our annual dinner auction this year. Please help us spread the word about the "Show Some Love for SJB" Giving Campaign. No donation is too small! Every bit helps us continue to provide a faith-filled education for our children. Visit sjbhorns.silentactionpro.com for more information or contact the school office at 282-3215.

RESPECT LIFE

Each year, the First Sunday of Lent we are immediately taken to the scene of Jesus' temptation in the desert by Satan. The forty-day time period signifies a time of preparation and orientation that allows Jesus (and us) to see the world in a new way. Like Noah's forty days on the boat in the First Reading from Genesis, it is a rebuilding of our commitment to God and allowing His vision for our lives. After the temptation, Jesus emerges with full authority, stronger, as He proclaims that "the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent and believe in the gospel." Learn, Act, Connect and Pray - We too are tempted, yet we too have worth and purpose. We are called by Our Father to a vocation that He has in mind for us. Whether it being praying for the unborn, helping a mother in need, or welcoming an immigrant to our community, these small acts make a big difference in building up the Kingdom of God. During these 40 days of Lent, may we pray for God's grace to move in our lives as He shows us new opportunities to grow in faith as we firmly say "yes" to all God has in store for us. Lent has just begun. Let's work to emerge stronger than ever in our faith pray "Lord, help us follow you into new life this Lent."

GIBAULT NEWS

Host Families Needed: Gibault Catholic High School is seeking families with big hearts who are willing to share their homes with an international student for the 2021-2022 school year. Contact Desiree Frasure at dfrasure.educatius@gmail.com or Becky Ramlose at bramlose@gibaulthawks.com or call us at 936-3883 to learn more about this exciting opportunity. Gibault families can receive \$1,000 off of tuition for becoming a host family.

Applications: Applications for our Class of 2025 and transfer students are still being accepted. Visit <https://gibaulthawks.com/apply/>.

VOCATIONS CORNER

"Life is about saying "yes" to the things that help you to grow in holiness and "no" to the things that don't. Life is about searching for the best version of yourself. Today's culture doesn't have a vision for the human person. The goal of today's culture is consumption as we no longer are the consumers---we are being consumed. It is time for us to start thinking about where our lives are leading and to where God is calling us. The ways of the world lead to confusion. God's way leads to clarity, order and to a meaningful living with joy. Life is a choice we all have to make. So, fulfill God's vision for you and answer his call with a "yes"." The Four Signs of a Dynamic Catholic. Pg. 79-81.